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**Grade Level: High School**

Three videos not only explain who the blacksmith was and why he was important to the early settlers, but the science behind the process of blacksmithing.

***The Science Behind … Blacksmithing – coal to coke***

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2CTJYz2cgsA&t=31s> approx. 14 minutes

This video focuses on the fuel that blacksmiths use.

What do we want them to know?

1. What is required for fire.

2. Compare and contrast the use of wood, charcoal and coal for fuel.

3. Key terms and processes: elements, maleable, chemical reaction, destructive distillations.

***The Science Behind … Blacksmithing – physics and chemistry of forging***

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A3-jPuTu20g> approx. 8 minutes

This video focuses on the chemical process of forging.

What do we want them to know?

1. How a blacksmith knows the temperature.

2. The melting temperature of iron.

3. Explain conduction, convection and radiation.

4. The requirements of a chemical reaction.

5. Key terms: atoms, neutrons, protons, electrons, nucleus, elements, periodic table, electromagnetic spectrum, scale

***The Science Behind … Blacksmithing – Up in Smoke***

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MbP_dp6xS8c&t=32s> approx. 7 minutes.

What do we want them to know:

1. What is in all that smoke?
2. How coal is formed.
3. Key terms: autotrophy, fungi, decomposers, mycelium, elements, volatile compounds

Additional Resources:

This wiki site provides significant background on blacksmithing including processes, materials, history, and notable blacksmiths.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blacksmith>

This wiki site provides general background on forges, tools and some processes.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Forge>

This webpage provides some additional history of blacksmithing.

<http://www.appalachian-ironworks.com/history_blacksmith/>

Visit Heritage Farm Museum and Village in Huntington, WV. Watch and talk with the blacksmith. Make a list of all items found throughout the Village that the blacksmith had a hand in creating.